



5968-01-SMH

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE **TECH CENTER 1600/2900**

APPLICANT : David Thomas Dudley, et al.

EXAMINER : San Ming R Hui

SERIAL NO. : 09/868,120

ART UNIT : 1617

FILED : June 14, 2001

PAPER NO : 6

FOR : TREATMENT OF ARTHRITIS WITH MEK INHIBITORS

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JUL-03**Response Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111(a)**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated June 19, 2002 (Paper No. 5), the Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the above-identified application in view of the following remarks.

IN THE SPECIFICATION**CLEAN COPY – PLEASE ENTER**

Please add the following new paragraph on page 1, after the title and before line 3:

A 2

This application is a 371 application of PCT/US99/29783 filed December 15, 1999, which claims the benefit of priority to United States provisional Serial No. 60/164,651 filed November 10, 1999 and United States provisional application Serial No. 60/112,544 filed December 16, 1998.

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IN THE CLAIMS

Please replace claims 6, 8, 14, 15, and 16 with the following amended claims:

A 2
Sub B' cont

6. (Once Amended) The method according to Claim 1 wherein the MEK inhibitor is a compound of Formula I